

Gayle Walden
828-437-3268

Stephanie Kost

From: Gayle Walden [gwalden@burke.k12.nc.us]
Sent: Saturday, July 31, 2004 10:33 PM
To: Michael Copps
Subject: violence inquiry

Gayle Walden
5042 Waldens Mtn. Rd.
Morganton, NC 28655

July 31, 2004

Commissioner Michael Copps
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

Commissioner Copps:

It is my understanding that the FCC is doing an inquiry among parents to see how they feel about violence on TV. I would like to share my thoughts with you.

Let me begin by asking you to please be an advocate against such violent programming. I have teenagers ages 13 and 14. I do not allow them to watch violent programming. Though I realize that they may see it at friends' houses, I want to send a clear message that I do not approve of violent and sexually explicit content. Not only is it harmful to teens, it is harmful to adults as well.

It serves no purpose, and does not further a good story. It is just something people have come to expect, and like a drug, they want more of it. This can be evidenced by the fact that people now go to the internet to view beheadings, autopsies and other graphic images. This is not good. We should be sickened by such, but instead many feed off of these images.

I used to enjoy watching legal shows, however, I rarely find an episode that doesn't involve sexual violence and deviation. I used to enjoy crime dramas, but I rarely watch them anymore either because of the graphic violence that is displayed. I think writers have begun to depend on scenes of dead bodies, autopsies, mutilation, shooting, blood and guts, rather than to depend on an interesting storyline.

I miss the days of Mannix and Hawaii 5-0, or even Magnum PI where the violence was more implied. Sure, it wasn't very realistic by today's standards, but the stories were entertaining and kept you guessing without making you sick.

I don't want my children, or anyone for that matter, to become used to seeing death and destruction on TV. I want them to feel sorrow when someone is hurt, not to become steadily desensitized. And I don't want to see news channels competing to see who can show the most graphic pictures - these are real people and they are someone's sons or daughters.

I hope you will do something to help make TV journalism and network programming more responsible to our citizens. Yes, some will say they like the violence, but that doesn't mean it is good for them, especially not for children and teens who watch, unpoliced by their parents.

Sincerely,

Gayle Walden
828-437-3268

Stephanie Kost

From: David & Rita Helwig [rdeh471@evenlink.com]
Sent: Saturday, July 31, 2004 10:26 PM
To: Commissioner Adelstein
Subject: Violence on TV

David & Rita Helwig
471 4th Street
Northumberland, Pa 17857

July 31, 2004

Commissioner Jonathan Adelstein
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

Commissioner Adelstein:

I know first haand just how desensitized to violence one can become. However in a reverse way. I lived without TV for 15 years by choice. Before I stopped, there was violence, which was one reason I stopped watching. Since then on the occasions that I have seen TV I have been horrible appalled and shocked. It is definitely worse now.

Please use your influence to clean up the publicc airwaves.

Sincerely,

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Stephanie Kost

From: Celia James [seekthelamb@aol.com]
Sent: Saturday, July 31, 2004 10:22 PM
To: KAQuinn
Subject: Violence on TV

Celia James
212 Gay Rd.
Seffner, FL 33584

July 31, 2004

Commissioner Kathleen Abernathy
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

Commissioner Abernathy:

As a teacher and parent for over 20 years I believe I have seen a dramatic change in TV violence and it's effect on young people. I am deeply concerned about how much violence children are exposed to and the tendency it has to desensitize children to the feelings of others. (I am also concerned about this effect on adults!) Thank you for caring about how TV violence effects us all. Expecting the public to "just turn the channel" is a ridiculous solution. The really only practical solution is to turn the TV OFF! Do you want us to do that? I don't...I enjoy TV and the many benefits it brings. Gone are the days we can trust networks to provide entertainment without needing something to "edit" (if it were possible) out the stuff we don't want to see or hear because it's violent or offensive. But I am coming closer to the day when I will just keep the TV off unless some real changes occur. Our way of living in America is too valuable to subject us to standards that will some day lead to destroying our culture. Please help us to regain some ground of decency to preserve our way of life for future generations, and, ultimately, the world, since TV from America is watched all over the world. What an awesome responsibility...let's not ignore it!!

Sincerely,

Celia W. James

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Stephanie Kost

From: Howard Wilson [hwrwdw@sbcglobal.net]
Sent: Saturday, July 31, 2004 10:03 PM
To: KAQuinn
Subject: People are sick of violence

Howard Wilson
1134 cr 2210
Pittsburg, TX 75686

July 31, 2004

Commissioner Kathleen Abernathy
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

Commissioner Abernathy:

The Violence is sickning on the big screen. Now violence is being pushed in the homes of America via cable, sattalites and even the networks with impunity. With any profit driven product be it sick programing or street drugs, people are being torn down by others who victomize the unsuspecting to make a filthy living.

We the people are not willing to let theise vultures drag America down into the sewer!

You may still have time to do something about this scourge before the people must.

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Stephanie Kost

From: Georg BOLCH [ggb949@netzero.com]
Sent: Saturday, July 31, 2004 10:00 PM
To: Commissioner Adelstein
Subject: VIOLENT TELEVISION PROGRAMS

Georg BOLCH
P O Box 528
Suquamish, Washington 98392-0528

July 31, 2004

Commissioner Jonathan Adelstein
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

Commissioner Adelstein:

It is unconscionable that the FCC allows so much violence and mayhem on television. Nothing seems off limits - rape, peophilia, bestiality, vicious physical fights, murder, assault, etc, ad nauseum.

As television programs have become more and more violent, society has mirrored this programming - with more vicious assaults, dismemberment, kidnapping, and increased violence against women, against children, against employers, against employees - the list can go on seemingly without end.

And yes, society has mirrored television, NOT television "only showing what is going on in society", the producers, directors, writers and distributors of television and movies not withstanding.

I spent 40 years [1960 - 2000] as a counselor and therapist, and I saw firsthand the impact of violent television and movies in the lives of the men and women who were my patients. It was extremely rare for me to see anyone who had not been either the victim or the perpetrator of violence - or both. And without question, there was a very noticable increase in the level of violence as the years progressed, especially during the 1990s.

Your failure to act with the authority at your disposal to curb this violence is not only reprehensible but criminally negligent. And if you continue to be passive to this assault on the good people of the United States of America, the President should ask the Congress and Senate to abolish the FCC for being ineffectual and for failing to fulfill its mission and purpose.

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Georg G Bolch

Stephanie Kost

From: Gene Ratzlaff [genesarr@aol.com`]
Sent: Saturday, July 31, 2004 9:55 PM
To: Michael Powell
Subject: Violent programming

Gene Ratzlaff
13800 N. CR 7
Wellington, CO 80549

July 31, 2004

Chairman Michael Powell
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

Chairman Powell:

I know that violent programming has a negative effect on our children and adults. We are what we take in, not just nutritionally, but mentally/emotionally as well.

I am a law enforcement officer and my wife a director of a preschool. On both counts we see people, young and adults acting out what they have seen on the TV and movie screens. We need to have family programming that children can watch.

We do not watch much TV anymore, just select program that are not violent or vulgar. There is not much of the current programing that we can watch aside from DOC and Sue Thomas?FBEye.

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